



## MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

### School Committee Meeting

Monday, June 1, 2026 at 5:30 pm

Library or Zoom

**REVISED on 5/29/2026**

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For More Information and Meeting Resources: [Click for Agenda Items](#)

**Present:** Chair - Skipper Manter, Jen Cutrer, Marsha Shufrin, Kathryn Shertzer, Amy Houghton, Elliott Bennett, Rizwan Malik

**Staff:** Principal - Sean Mulvey, Finance Director - Suzanne Cioffi, Director of Operations - Sam Hart, Director of Student Affairs - Jared Andrews, Administrator of Special Education - Erinn Fauteux\*, Technology Director - Rick Mello

**Supt's Office:** Zoom: Facilities Director - Jason O'Donnell\*

**Recorder:** Superintendent - Richie Smith, School Business Administrator - Mark Friedman, Director of Student Support Services - Hope MacLeod

Rebecca Claussen

*\*indicates late arrival*

**Please note: All business will consist of a discussion and possible vote to take action.**

*(Recorder's Note: Discussions are summarized and grouped for clarity and brevity)*

#### **I. Welcome - Chair**

Chair Skipper Manter called this meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

#### **II. Routine Reports**

##### **A. Student Report**

##### **1. Student Report of Activities**

Junior class President and Vice President, Griffin Buelher and Addison Blake attended to discuss recent and upcoming student activities. Teacher Appreciation week occurred last week, Hope week was last week, similar to a Spirit Week. MCAS testing recently occurred for Math, and Biology. STING (Smooth Transition into Ninth Grade) happened where all the upcoming Freshman came to spend some time on campus. NHS Elections occurred for next year's leaders, electing two presidents. Seniors finished Senior Assassin, had dinner at Atria a couple of days ago and brunch this morning, and exams this week. Evening of the Arts was last week where there was a showcase of student artwork, musical performances and even a fashion show. May 27, 2026 was Give Back Day where students went out into the community to perform community service. Griffin gave the athletics update where Baseball is currently 10-10, softball went 4-17, Boys Tennis was 13-4, Girls Tennis is 18-0 and are #1 in D3 right now, Girls Lacrosse was 17-10, Boys Lacrosse was 7-12, Track and Field sent multiple kids to divisional championships and Sailing placed 4th at the Cape & Islands Fleet Racing Championship.

##### **2. Visual Arts Department**

Chris Baer attended to present on behalf of the Art, Design and Technology Department, where Chris is the department chair. Chris has taught at MVRHS for about 31 years, and was also a student at MVRHS. The recent Evening of the Arts displayed

work by students, taught by the Art, Design and Technology department of 6 people, 4 full time and 2 part time. Tiffany Shoquist teaches Drawing & Painting semester long courses, in addition to Art History courses, Fashion & Sewing courses and the AP Art Studio courses. Elsbeth Todd teaches Design & Architecture courses, Animation and Cartoon courses, Intro to Design courses that work with the 3D printer. Brendan Coogan teaches Crafts & Sculpture, where students make items from clay, and Multi-media sculpture courses which use metals and woods, among other items. Chris Connor teaches technology courses, and shows design work with technology like laser cutters. George Michaels teaches programming courses, which show how to code. Both Chris and George will be teaching AP Computer Science courses next year. Chris assisted with the grant writing process for the CTE Grant awarded to Building Trades as his students will also be able to use that machine. Presenter Chris Baer teaches Photography and Graphic Design courses

## **B. School Building Project**

### **1. Election Date June 2nd - 11:00 am to 7:00 pm**

The Election is tomorrow is your regular polling places across the island. But, it was brought to Skipper's attention that there was a mailing that had gone out, showing the MVRHS Address as the return address but this mailing was not put out by the high school, nor did it use high schools funds. This was instead put out by a political action committee headed by Mike Watts, a previous school committee member, but there is no affiliation with the high school or the building committee. The School Building Committee will have a meeting after the conclusion of the election and decide how to move forward, whether that is keeping the committee intact or forming a new committee, after seeking guidance from MSBA.

## **C. Principal**

### **1. General Update**

Honors night occurred recently, honoring 459 different awards, in addition to hundreds of others. Honors night invites went out to students that received more than one award. Students with a single recognition received certificates in their homerooms. Give back Day also recently occurred where students went out into the community to do volunteer work across the island. This coming Friday is Class Night at 6 pm, where scholarships will be given out, and Sunday is Graduation at 1:30 pm, both events taking place at the Tabernacle.

### **2. Title I Family Engagement**

MVRHS is a district wide Title I school, meaning 40% of families are considered low income which means that part of the DESE governed requirement is to make sure families are aware of their opportunities and gather feedback. This is a procedure, not a policy and no vote is required but keeping the committee informed. The document currently outlines what has been in place, and will allow for incoming Principal, Bryan Lombardi to have an opportunity to review it and make suggestions.

***Vote Required***

### **3. Student Handbook Update - possible vote**

There are very few changes to the handbook this year, and the only policy change was related to Competency Determination due to the state MCAS requirement adjustments, which has been voted on and approved by the committee early in the year. The three areas that felt worthy of bringing up are the Academic Dishonesty consequence structure, which is more about education than consequences, so consequences have been replaced with educational opportunities. The next section relates to the A.I. Guiding Principles which has evolved due to the ever changing nature of A.I. usage, and trying to stay one step ahead of the students. Additionally, the National Honor Society by-laws have been added in, which were not in place in previous years. Any remaining adjustments will be made only to contacts, etc. The All Island School Committee will also be reviewing A.I. across the district and may come back with

additions or subtractions to the portion of the handbook at a later date. *Amy Houghton made a motion to approve the handbook as presented, seconded by Jen Cutrer. Roll Call: Shufrin - Aye, Houghton - Aye, Malik - Aye, Cutrer - Aye, Shertzer - Aye, Bennett - Aye, Manter - Aye.*

*Motion Passes: 7-0-0*

**4. Mascot Update - possible vote**

Charlotte Cramer and Maison Currelli attended to present final results with regards to the Mascot proposal. After a second round of surveying, to break the tie voting, the Mako Shark came out on top. They presented a few different costume options, but this has a cost of somewhere between \$8000-\$10,000. The students next plan, if approved, would be to start fundraising for the costume, seeking branding ideas and volunteers to wear the costume. After some continued discussion the committee needs to work on some additional policy with regards to having a mascot and what the parameters would be, given the more recent work with BSN and the use of the "Fisherperson" approved in that time frame, meaning the school may have two options for a mascot, if the Mako Shark is approved. There needs to be further research done to determine what is allowed and what adjustments need to be made to ensure appropriate compliance and use by all groups. The committee tabled the discussion until a future meeting.

**D. Superintendent**

**1. General Update**

During the June 22, 2026 meeting Richie will be bringing salary adjustments for Administration, which are pretty uniform across the board.

*Votes Required*

**III. Consents**

**A. Minutes: May 4, 2026**

*Amy Houghton made a motion to approve the minutes of May 4, 2026, seconded by Rizwan Malik. Roll Call: Shufrin - Aye, Houghton - Aye, Malik - Aye, Cutrer - Aye, Shertzer - Aye, Bennett - Aye, Manter - Aye.*

*Motion Passes: 7-0-0*

**B. Personnel**

**1. Lauraye White resignation**

PAC Assistant resignation effective May 21, 2026.

**2. Luna Harre resignation**

ESP resignation effective at the end of the current school year.

*Amy Houghton made a motion to acknowledge these resignations, seconded by Kathryn Shertzer. Roll Call: Shufrin - Aye, Houghton - Aye, Malik - Aye, Cutrer - Aye, Shertzer - Aye, Bennett - Aye, Manter - Aye.*

*Motion Passes: 7-0-0*

**C. Grants and Donations**

**1. Grants for acceptance**

Mark Friendman shared his screen where he had a number of grants to review. The high school has one from the State for the HiSet program, \$1,300 for FY27 and \$1,200 from FY26 which wasn't clear that it had been voted on due to quorum issues when it was posted. The next set of grants are the Adult Education State Grants which are broken up into two sections, the first being the State Grant which is \$301,840 and the second is the Federal Grant which is \$75,460 and these are annual grants. The final round of grants are the Rural Education Achievement Program (REAP) at the Federal level, Edgartown has an allocation of \$39,334, Oak Bluffs has an allocation of \$43,703 and Tisbury has an allocation of \$32,826, which is similar to last year's received amounts. The total on grants for approval tonight is \$495,663. *Amy Houghton made a motion to accept the grants, seconded by Kathryn Shertzer. Roll Call: Shufrin - Aye, Houghton - Aye, Malik - Aye, Cutrer - Aye, Shertzer - Aye, Bennett - Aye, Manter - Aye.*

*Motion Passes: 7-0-0*

**2. Martha's Vineyard Bank Scholarship**

There has been a generous donation by Rafael Fusco contributing to the scholarship fund in the amount of \$250,000, to allow the Guidance Department to select two recipients per year, receiving \$10,000 each in scholarship money. There are no parameters to this scholarship. *Amy Houghton made a motion to accept the donation from Rafael Fusco in the amount of \$250,000 with overjoyed enthusiasm, seconded by Elliott Bennett. Roll Call: Shufrin - Aye, Houghton - Aye, Malik - Aye, Cutrer - Aye, Shertzer - Aye, Bennett - Aye, Manter - Aye.*

*Motion Passes: 7-0-0*

**3. Donation of approximately 4,000 gallons of Heating Oil from the Oak Bluffs School**

Per Mark Friedman this is not ready to occur just yet but Oak Bluffs School is in the process of replacing boilers and headed to propane usage and will be looking to donate their oil to MVRHS.

**D. Out-of-State and Overnight Travel**

There are four students that qualified for the Track Nationals in Oregon, so they and 2 chaperones will be heading there June 16, 2026 through June 20, 2026. *Amy Houghton made a motion to approve the trip for the track team, seconded by Kathryn Shertzer. Roll Call: Shufrin - Aye, Houghton - Aye, Malik - Aye, Cutrer - Aye, Shertzer - Aye, Bennett - Aye, Manter - Aye.*

*Motion Passes: 7-0-0*

**1. Best Buddies**

This is for the Best Buddies Leadership Conference, which is part of the grant written and awarded to Senior Katie Becker, that had been voted on earlier in the school year. That grant is covering the cost of this trip which is for 4 students and 2 chaperones to go to Bloomington, Indiana for the conference July 17, 2026 through July 20, 2026. *Elliott Bennett made a motion to approve the out of state travel, seconded by Rizwan Malik. Roll Call: Shufrin - Aye, Houghton - Aye, Malik - Aye, Cutrer - Aye, Shertzer - Aye, Bennett - Aye, Manter - Aye.*

*Motion Passes: 7-0-0*

**E. Approval of 2026-2027 Committee Meeting Dates**

Same predictability as FY26 being the first Monday of every month, with the exception of Labor Day, moving that meeting to September 14, 2026 and adding in the extra meeting date in June. Given all that needs to be addressed the committee suggested adding in July 6, 2026 and August 3, 2026.

**IV. Finance**

**A. Revenue and Expenditures**

Suzanne Cioffi passed around sheets for both revenue and Expenditures. She noted that the two areas from last time, within utilities, where work is still being done with the Oak Bluffs Wastewater for some overbilling which appears to be mostly software related but Jason and Suzanne are looking for a finite answer on the overbilling, and have requested to be placed on the Wastewater Commissions agenda, with the hope of having resolution by the next committee meeting on June 22, 2026. Additionally, the heating oil line still shows a deficit but the tanks are all at least 60% full so once the year is complete that deficit will not look as high as it does now at \$75,000. Kathryn asked if there is space to accept the fuel from Oak Bluffs, to which Suzanne said yes, and any extra once topped off will be given back to Packer for their other customers.

**B. Revolving Lunch Fund Deficit FY25 \$95,524.67, FY26 TBD**

Due to the way the revolving lunch fund is structured, mainly the food service staff salaries so it is expected to run as a deficit each year. When moving from Chartwells to in house, and supply chain assistance before and after Covid, changes in reimbursable amounts, contractual salary increases, contingencies that were once in the budget to address the deficit brings the total to \$95,524.67 for FY25, and the FY26 amount is still to be determined, but roughly around \$90,000. In FY20 is the first year in house at the school, Tisbury was in the building so \$87,821

was put into the general fund to help with the anticipated deficit due to the business model. Shortly after, Covid happened and there was a meal program for breakfast and lunch for students. In 2021 Massachusetts would reimburse all meals, including multiple meals per student, leaving that \$87,821 still in the general fund, and the meal reimbursement continued through 2022. In 2023 the State still offered to reimburse for meals but sought more diligent record keeping, and at the same time there was still an increase in students and a need to increase the cafeteria staff by one additional person, who was paid out by the revolving lunch fund which for 2023 was increased to \$90,242. At the time, reimbursements were still coming in from the State and Federal Government. In FY24 there was a need to hire a .2 ASP for the cafeteria as it was an audit year. Then in FY25 the reimbursements continued to decrease, but due to contractual increases of the staff that brought the deficit to \$95,524.67, and due to budget constraints the general fund was decreased, no longer having that amount to help offset the needs. This is still not budgeted for in FY27, as keeping the budget down still needed to occur. The numbers for FY26 should be available by the June 22, 2026 meeting as reimbursements for April, May and June have not yet been received. Jen Cutrer asked why this was just coming up now, to which Sizanne responded that when 2025 closed, not all reimbursements had been received, and once the books are closed there is no option to do an end of year transfer. The road map to not have this problem again is to move the salaries out from this fund, and there has been increased housekeeping to get paid for anything that has been billed out to students, therefore increasing those monies coming in. On June 22 there will be a presentation on the fixed costs and insurances and changes in hires which should help to lay out the plan. The average weekly deposit from the cafeteria fluctuates between \$400-\$600. The State paid amount is currently just over \$4 per lunch, and a second lunch is billed at \$3, which covers the cost of that meal. Skipper suggests increasing the second lunch billed amount to match the reimbursable rate. We are a Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) school where the Federal Government picks up a percentage of lunches, and Massachusetts covers whatever isn't covered federally. This can be discussed further in the Fall with the Budget Subcommittee.

**C. School Building Project Printing Invoices**

There are two invoices indirectly related to the building project but cannot be paid for by the feasibility debt borrowing. Both to Tisbury Printer, the first for \$225 for 1000 Placards 4x9, and MV Vote June Posters for \$75.00. Suzanne is suggesting this comes from the Advertising budget. Skipper expressed displeasure in money being spent when the group didn't have any, and asking for it after the fact, even if unintentional. *Amy Houghton made a motion to pay for these invoices from the Advertising budget, seconded by Jen Cutrer. Roll Call: Shufirin - Aye, Houghton - Aye, Malik - Aye, Cutrer - Aye, Shertzer - Aye, Bennett - Aye, Manter - Nay. Motion Passes: 6-1-0*

**D. Vouchers that Amy Signed**

Amy signed 4 vouchers to make sure payroll would run. Item E below, voucher 24, which included stipends totaling \$1,113,732.93. Item F below, voucher 3720, for \$2,801 for Science Fair Awards. Item G below, voucher 3721 for accounts payable for \$141,804.36. Item H below, voucher 3723, \$10,000 for the MSBA project. Within voucher 24 there were some questions about some of the payroll for transportation in there which is indicated on the warrant, but without signing it, nobody in the district would have been paid. Additionally, there was the Transportation vendor voucher in the amount of \$33,956.85, voucher 3722, with an indication that there is an item that needs review. Marsha asked for clarification on that item, which is a toll payment of about \$5. Kathryn asked which vouchers Suzanne signed, to which she responded 3720, 3721 and 3723. Rizwan asked Amy if she signed these at the advice of counsel, to which Amy said "yes". *Rizwan Malik made a motion to approve the 5 vouchers (24, 3720, 3721, 3722, 3723) signed by Amy Houghton, seconded by Marsha Shufirin. Roll Call: Shufirin - Aye, Houghton - Aye, Malik - Aye, Cutrer - Aye, Shertzer - Nay, Bennett - Nay, Manter - Aye. Motion Passes: 5-2-0*

**E. Voucher 24 Payroll \$1,113,732.93**

Discussed above.

**F. Voucher 3720 Science Fair Awards \$2,executive session 801.00**

Discussed above.

**G. Voucher 3721 Accounts Payable \$141,804.36**

Discussed above.

**H. Voucher 3723 MSBA \$10,000**

Discussed above.

**I. Appointing Member to Sign Pay Warrants for Committee**

Amy Houghton discussed this topic as she met with Suzanne last week to sign warrants that needed to go out. If one person is appointed to sign these warrants, they should still come to the committee for review and be placed on the agendas. Warrants should be signed by the finance director and school committee member prior to payments going out. Skipper discussed having one person sign so that there is authorization prior to payment, and then attending to discuss and collect additional signatures at the monthly meeting. If any member wishes to review and sign prior to that meeting they are able to do so. The next warrant is Payroll, which closes at midnight on Thursday, but will be available to Suzanne by Monday, allowing a buffer to make adjustments and ask questions, additionally the finance office has a goal of closing the AP Processing voucher as well. Kathryn expressed concern over picking one person, or asking one person to carry that burden of signing and the responsibility that comes with it. Marsha suggested that the Transportation subcommittee meet this week to gather further understanding of the process and what is being asked of the committee. Jen wondered who the responsible party was that could meet with Transportation prior to payroll submission, to verify the information prior to being submitted. There had been several additional staff members in transportation that have not been replaced where this was part of their function within the department. Amy suggested that there needs to be a more accurate way of tracking hours given the new agreement is hourly, meaning there must be a mechanism put into place that will not allow for errors with payroll submission. Using digital options for signing is likely not the way forward given the amount of time it will take to scan all of those pages that are in a single warrant, and can sometimes be extremely large stacks of paperwork. Amy is willing to sign the next warrants until the process has been completed and more thorough, especially given that she has been the primary contact with counsel with regards to this matter. After continued discussion the committee agreed to assign one person from the committee for each month to be the designated signature to be captured before the next meeting, allowing for warrants to continue to move forward in a timely manner. Amy Houghton will sign the next batch, and the committee will develop a schedule at the next meeting occurring on June 22, 2026. *Rizwan Malik made a motion to appoint Amy Houghton as the school committee member to sign upcoming pay warrants and pay vouchers retroactive from Tuesday, May 26, 2026 to the next payroll on Tuesday, June 9, 2026, seconded by Kathryn Shertzer. Roll Call: Shufrin - Aye, Houghton - Aye, Malik - Aye, Cutrer - Aye, Shertzer - Aye, Bennett - Aye, Manter - Aye. Motion Passes: 7-0-0*

**V. Subcommittee Updates**

**A. Transportation**

There will be a meeting in the near future.

**B. Facilities**

No updates at this time.

**C. Athletics**

No update at this time.

**D. Budget**

No update at this time.

**VI. Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair/Announcements**

No unanticipated topics at this time.

**VII. Public Comment**

No public comment at this time.

**VIII. Election of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary of the School Committee**

Moved to the meeting on June 22, 2026

***Vote Required***

**IX. Adjournment**

*Amy Houghton made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Kathryn Shertzer. Roll Call: Shufrin - Aye, Houghton - Aye, Malik - Aye, Cutrer - Aye, Shertzer - Aye, Bennett - Aye, Manter - Aye.*

*Motion Passes: 7-0-0*

***Minutes submitted by Rebecca Claussen***

***Date of Approval of Minutes: June 22, 2026***

#### **Appendix A: Documents on File**

- 1. II. C. 3. MVRHS Student Handbook 26\_27 DRAFT**
- 2. 6.1.26 MVRHS School Committee Zoom Recording**
- 3. II. C. 3. Student Handbook Updates for 2026-2027 School year**
- 4. III. D. Track Oregon trip (1)**
- 5. III. D. 1. Out of State & Overnight Travel Form - BBLC.docx (1)**
- 6. IV. A. MVRHS Expenditures**
- 7. IV. A. MVRHS Revenue**
- 8. III. C. 1. School committee 06012026**
- 9. III. E. MVRHS SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING CALENDAR 2026-2027**
- 10. III. C. 2. Martha's Vineyard Bank Scholarship**
- 11. III. B. 1. Lauraye White(1)**
- 12. III. B. 2. Formal Resignation Letter - Luna Harre, ESP**
- 13. III. A. DRAFT MVRHSSC Minutes 050426**
- 14. Agenda MVRHS SC 6.1.26**
- 15. Invoice #53698\_from\_Tisbury\_Printer**
- 16. Tisbury\_Printer\_Invoice #53603**

#### **Appendix B: Zoom AI Next Steps**

- 1. Madison Corelli and Charlotte Kramer: Present the final mascot update at the July school committee meeting, including discussion on policy for adopting a new mascot and potential logo development.**
- 2. School Committee: Discuss and potentially vote on the adoption of the Mako Shark as the official mascot at the July meeting, considering the need for a formal process and possible elimination of the previous mascot.**
- 3. School Committee: Schedule a meeting for the School Building Committee to discuss its role, composition, and responsibilities moving forward, following the election results.**
- 4. Superintendent: Bring new salary adjustments for staff to the June 22nd school committee meeting.**
- 5. School Committee: Approve the 2026-2027 School Committee Meeting Dates Calendar, including adding July and August meetings.**
- 6. School Committee: Designate a person (starting with Amy) to sign warrants and vouchers on behalf of the committee until a new process is established, with a plan to rotate this responsibility monthly.**
- 7. Budget Subcommittee: Review and address the revolving lunch fund deficit issue, including potential changes to the pricing of second lunches, at the next meeting.**
- 8. School Committee: Add the election of chair and vice chair to the agenda for the June 22nd meeting.**